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meeting of the society at which Know Nothings were in the majority. A new board of managers was elected and the dispossessed board protested in vain against the irregularity. In the election of 1856, Democrats, Free Soilers and Republicans united against the Know Nothings and elected their mayor by a majority of thirteen out of a total vote of 5,841. The city council, however, remained in the hands of the Know Nothings. The next year a city election was being held to fill certain offices, when fourteen plug-uglies from Baltimore followed by the disorderly element from Washington took control of one of the polling places and refused to permit the anti-Know Nothings to vote. There was no militia organization and the mayor of the city called upon the President for soldiers. A hundred and ten soldiers were sent to the polling place and the demand was made that the polls be opened. The Know Nothing crowd answered by throwing stones at the soldiers and firing pistol shots. Thereupon the soldiers were ordered to fire and seven men in the crowd were killed and twenty-one were wounded. In the election the anti-Know Nothing ticket was successful.

The author has drawn his materials copiously from contemporary newspapers and government reports and presents them in an entertaining, gossipy style which prevents the multitude of details with which every page abounds from depressing the reader.

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**The Swedes in America, 1638-1900.** By Amandus Johnson, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: The Lenapé Press, 1914. Vol. i. Pp. 391.

This volume, we are informed in the preface, was prepared to meet the demand for a popular edition of the author's "The Swedish Settlements on the Delaware," of which it is an abridgment. Vol. i has the sub-title "The Swedes on the Delaware" and covers the period 1638-1664.

The first three chapters give the European background to Swedish settlement in America. They treat of the political and social conditions in Sweden and give an account of the place of Sweden in the Europe of the seventeenth century. Naturally an important place in the story is assigned to the Dutch enterprisers who were the principal actors in the establishment of the Swedish colony. Following an account of the social and economic

life in the colony of New Sweden, much space is given to the petty quarrels between the Dutch and Swedes in America in which there is a great deal of talk of guns and drums but no bloodshed. This part of the story might be summarized as follows: When the Swedish governor learned of the weakness of the Dutch Fort Casimir which had been erected on Swedish territory he demanded its surrender. While the Dutch commander was attempting to secure a delay Swedish soldiers entered the poorly guarded gates of the fort. "When the Hollanders wanted to use their guns, they were told to put them down again, and thus the Swedes took possession of Fort Casimir without hostility." The fort at the time of its surrender was garrisoned by nine soldiers, and armed with thirteen cannon; but there was no powder and the muskets were with the gunsmith. After many threats, Governor Stuyvesant finally undertook the recapture of the fort and the conquest of the Swedish colony. The Swedish commander exhorted his men to make all possible resistance, but many of the latter succeeded in deserting to the Dutch forces. One of the deserters was shot in the leg by a Swedish officer as he made his escape, and later died of the wound. This was the only casualty of the war. The fort was given up and soon afterward the Dutch governor laid siege to the Swedish Fort Christina, and after a wordy contest, the Swedes decided to surrender. According to a secret and separate article, the Swedish governor was to be landed in either England or France and advanced the sum of 300 pounds Flanders. It appears that he did not see fit to return to Sweden, and it is probable that both governors considered the agreement good business.

Although in places there are enlivening bits of description and good and unique illustrations, the narrative on the whole moves with much tedium. The author has difficulty with the English idiom, and the proofreading is not always careful.

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**Americanism: What It Is.** By David Jayne Hill, LL.D. New York: D. Appleton and Co., 1916. Pp. xv+280.

What is the most characteristic factor of the American spirit? What is it which exactly places a stamp on a man and calls him American? Who is an American? What change is necessary to develop a foreigner into an American citizen? These and